

REMARKS

By the foregoing Amendment, Claims 1-19 have been cancelled, and new Claims 20-29 have been added. Favorable consideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Claims 8 and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, and these claims have now been cancelled.

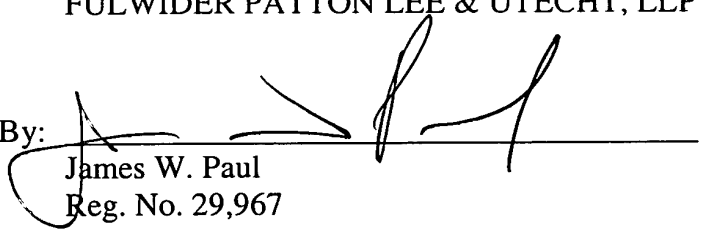
Claims 8, 11-14 and 17-19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) on the grounds of obviousness from WO97/43210, which teaches the use of a catalyst of copper oxide and/or nickel oxide, and one or more alkaline compounds as a chlorine remover and reaction rate modifier which can include strontium hydroxide. New independent Claims 20, 24 and 27 recite tin powder as a fuel, and "strontium peroxide as a sole catalyst for the oxygen generating composition." Support for these limitations can be found in the specification at page 9, lines 6-27, for example, and in Example 3, 5th layer. It is respectfully submitted that WO97/43210 does not teach, disclose or suggest the use of tin powder as a fuel, and strontium peroxide as a sole catalyst for an oxygen generating composition. It is therefore respectfully submitted that the claims as amended are novel and inventive over WO97/43210.

In light of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application should now be in condition for allowance, and an early favorable action in this regard is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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